



## CIEE in Taipei, Taiwan

<b>Course name:</b>	Understanding and Misunderstanding Art of China
<b>Course number:</b>	EAST 3002 CTAI/AHIS 3002 CTAI
<b>Programs offering course:</b>	Taipei Intensive Chinese Language and Culture
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	English
<b>U.S. Semester Credits:</b>	3 credits
<b>Contact Hours:</b>	45 contact hours
<b>Term:</b>	Spring 2019

### Course Description

本課的主題是中國藝術，為學生引介各種不同的藝術作品，如玉雕、瓷器、捲畫、扇子、各式雕刻、書法與壁畫。本課將從歷史的角度，討論不同理解這些物件的方式：從藝術風格切入，或從物件的功能解讀。除了課堂演講外，課程還包括參訪台北地區的美術館，讓學生有機會近距離觀看和討論物件：這些美術館包括：故宮、歷史博物館、中研院歷史文物陳列館，它們有豐富而具代表性的典藏。

The purpose of the course is to teach students about Chinese art which include the vast and diverse objects such as jade carvings, lacquer and porcelain wares, painted scrolls and fans, sculptures in stone, bronze and wood, calligraphy and murals. The class will use art historical methods to introduce the various ways of understanding these objects: as art objects to be appreciated stylistically and as objects of function. In addition to the class lectures, another component of the class will be the required visits to museums in and around Taipei in order to gain first-hand experience in "looking" at and "talking" about Chinese art. These visits will include the National Palace Museum, the National Museum of History and the Museum of the Institute of History and Philology at the Academia Sinica, all of which house some of the best and most representative Chinese art works outside of China.

### Learning Objectives

- Learn the development of art in China present and past.
- Acquire the ability to identify artifacts from China and its style.
- Describe and analyze works of art, evaluate the social context of displays of art
- Understand the difference and connection of Taiwanese and Chinese art

### Course Prerequisites

No course prerequisites.



## **Methods of Instruction**

教學方式將以演講為主，並輔以物件的影像。每週三小時課程由演講與美術館參訪輪流進行。學生必須在課堂上或美術館裡參與物件分析的討論。除外，學生必須按時繳交老師指定的報告。

The teaching methods will consist of lectures with the aid of power-point images. The lectures will follow the contents of the required textbook. The three hour class sessions will alternate between class lectures on campus and museum/gallery visits. Students will be asked to participate in the analysis of art works, in class and during museum visits. Short written reports about objects displayed in museums will be required. There will also be tests on materials covered in class. A final research paper is required at the end of the semester.

## **Assessment and Final Grade**

Grades:

Writing assignments—20%

Project—20%

Presentation—20%

Final open-book exam—30% (Slide ID/ short answers/ essay question)

Class participation—10%

## **Course Requirements**

### **Readings**

Craig Clunas, *Art in China* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997 or 2009 edition).

Each student is required to read the week's text before class and contribute to class discussions.

### **Writing Assignments, projects, and presentations**

There will be a writing assignment, a project, and a presentation throughout the semester, in which students will turn in and present on the class topics.

Writing Assignments: 1000-1500 words typed and printed out.

Instructions:



Read Wu Hung's "The Art of 'Ritual Artifacts' (Liqi): Discourse and Practice." Then study the exhibitions in the Museum of the Institute of History and Philology at the Academia Sinica (10/12 visit) paying special attention to the ritual artifacts.

First, based on Prof. Wu's article, explain what are ritual artifacts, or liqi. It is his contention that in order to understand these "special artifacts" from early China we have to consider them not simply as "art" but as ritual objects. Moreover we also have to comprehend the discourse of liqi and how it (the discourse) and the practice of these ritual objects were intertwined. What does he mean?

(In other words write a summary of Prof. Wu's article.)

Then choose 2-3 ritual objects displayed in the two museums to illustrate them as manifestations of the concept of "liqi." Discuss these objects based on Prof. Wu's questions: "What are their physical and visual properties? What were the artists' goals? What did they mean to their patrons and users? What did they do in facilitating people's activities? How did they express contemporary ideas? How were they related to the time of their creation...?" (Wu, p. 235) In short, how should we understand these objects from early China based on the idea of liqi?

Project: design an exhibition of contemporary Chinese art

Presentation in museum: review of exhibition (10-15min)

### **Exams**

There will be a mid-term and final exams, in which students are required to synthesize and use the knowledge accumulated from the text, lecture and museum visits to complete the examinations.

### **Class participation**

Contribution in class and group discussions.

### **Weekly Schedule**

Week 1: Chinese Art and Taiwan

Ju, Jane C., "Chinese Art, the National Palace Museum, and Cold War Politics" in *Partisan Canons*, edited by Anna Brzyski, Durham: Duke University Press 2007, pp. 115-134

Week 2: Art in China and Taiwan Today

Clunas, "Art in the Market-place," in *Art in China*, pp. 201-223

Ju, Jane C., "Nationalist Patriarchy and Women Painters in Taiwan under the Guomindang," in *Journal of Contemporary Chinese Art*, 2:1, 2015, pp. 31-43.

Week 3: *Introduction*: What is art? What is Chinese art? pp. 9-13.



**\*Project:** design an exhibition of contemporary Chinese art

Week 4: *Art in the Tomb*, pp. 15-43.

Week 5: *Art in the Tomb*--museum visit

(Museum of the Institute of History and Philology at the Academia Sinica) \*assignment based on Museum of the Institute of History and Philology at the Academia Sinica visits

\* **Writing Assignments:** 1000-1500 words typed and printed out. (Please course requirements for details)

Week 6: Holiday

Week 7: *Art in the Temple*

Week 8: *Art in the Temple*--museum visit

(National Museum of History)

Week 9: *Art at Court*, pp. 45-87

Week 10: *Art at Court*--museum visit

(National Palace Museum)

Week 11: Mid-term exam

Week 12: *Art in the Life of the Elite*, pp. 135-153.

Week 13: *Art in the Life of the Elite*, pp. 153-171.

Week 14: *Art in the Life of the Elite*--museum visit

(Taipei fine arts museum)

\* **Presentation in museum: review of exhibition (10-15min)**

Week 15: *Art in the Market-place*

The Song and Yuan Dynasties to the Qing Dynasty, pp. 173-199.

Week 16: Final exam

### **Readings**

Required text:



Craig Clunas, *Art in China* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1997 or 2009 edition).